GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6409
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2003
NATIONAL ILLNESS ASSOCIATION FUND
A.K. PREMAJAM;RAMJI LAL SUMAN;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several patients in AIIMS are provided financial assistance through the National Illness Association Fund;

(b) if so, the details of funds allocated by the Government and utilised by the AIIMS under the National Illness Association Fund and the number of patients benefited therefrom during each of the last three years till date;

(c) whether the Government are aware that there is a long list of patients in AIIMS awaiting their treatment due to shortage of National Illness Association Fund (NIAF);

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(e) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a): Yes, Sir. Financial assistance is sanctioned by the Managing Committee of the National Illness Assistance Fund, now re-named as Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, to patients, living below poverty line, who are suffering from major life threatening diseases, for medical treatment at any of the Government/Superspeciality Hospitals/Institutes including AIIMS. A Revolving Fund of Rs.20.00 lakhs has also been placed at the disposal of Medical Superintendent, AIIMS to enable him sanction immediate financial assistance upto Rs.50,000/- in each deserving case reporting for treatment in the Institute.

(b):

Year	Funds allocated to AIIMS under Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (Rupees in lakhs)	Amount disbursed to patient/beneficiaries by AIIMS (Rupees in lakhs)	Number of patients benefited under the Scheme
2000-01	35.82	37.43	109
2001-02	197.45	161.66	413
2002-03	56.00	84.77	254
Total	289.27	283.86	776

(c)to(e): Presently, all the patients who were sanctioned financial assistance by the Managing Committee of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi have received/are receiving medical treatment at AIIMS out of the sanctioned amount. As per information received from AIIMS, 77 patients who have been sanctioned financial assistance out of the Revolving Fund at the disposal of Medical Superintendent, AIIMS are awaiting treatment due to shortage of funds. The Medical Superintendent, AIIMS has been requested to furnish Utilization Certificate for Rs.20 lakhs released to the Revolving Fund in June 2002, as required under General Financial Rules - 19, for replenishment of the Revolving Fund.